

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-11 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06
OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 NRC-05
PA-01 /145 W

-----068361 120225Z /21

R 101022Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4092

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CONAKRY 0481

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, GV

SUBJECT: URANIUM EXPLORATION IN GUINEA

1. COMPAGNIE GENERALE DES MATIERES NUCLEAIRES (COGEMA)
BEGAN WORK ON SECOND PHASE OF EXPLORATION FOR URANIUM
IN GUINEA IN LATE 1977. COGEMA IS A JOINT VENTURE OF
JAPANESE AND FRENCH GOVERNMENT NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCIES
AND GUINEAN GOVERNMENT.

2. APPROXIMATE GUINEAN AREA UNDER EXPLORATION IS
NORTH OF LATITUDE 11 DEGREES 50 MINUTES AS FAR AS
SENEGALESE AND MALIAN BORDER; HOWEVER, THIS YEAR EFFORTS
WILL BE CONCENTRATED IN NORTHERN FOUTA DJALLON (MIDDLE
GUINEA) PORTION. AERIAL PHOTOGRAMMETRY AND GROUND-LEVEL
TECHNIQUES WILL BE USED. MUCH OF AREA IS IMPENETRABLE
ON GROUND AND AVAILABLE MAPS ARE UNRELIABLE NECESSITATING
EXTENSIVE USE OF HELICOPTERS. FIELD WORK IS BEING
CARRIED OUT ALMOST ENTIRELY IN DRY SEASON (DECEMBER-
MAY). PROJECT COST IS PUT AT UNDER U.S. \$5 MILLION

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FOR EXPLORATION. STAFF CONSISTS OF SIX FRENCH
GEOLOGISTS PLUS ADMINISTRATORS AND SUPPORT STAFF.

3. COGEMA IS ALSO EXPLORING FOR URANIUM IN
SENEGAL, MALI AND GAMBIA. URANIUM DEPOSIT HAS BEEN
LOCATED IN MALI NOT FAR FROM GUINEAN BORDER IN
GEOLOGICALLY SIMILAR ENVIRONMENT, ACCORDING TO LOCAL

SOURCE. COGEMA IS HOPEFUL THAT URANIUM WILL BE
FOUND IN ECONOMIC QUANTITIES AND QUALITIES IN FOUTA
DJALLON WHICH IS NOT TOO DISTANT FROM SEA TRANSPORT.
CROSBY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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